

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/841,693

Examiner

Matthew O Savage

Applicant(s)

HWANG, YOUNG Y.

Art Unit

1723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 9-15-03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-24, 28, 25, and 26 renumbered 1-7, respectively.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Matthew O Savage
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1723

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Maxwell J. Petersen on 2-20-04.

21. A method of treating oil comprising the steps of:
- a) transporting a source of oil containing particulate materials to a treatment station, said treatment station including at least a filter system, said filter system being capable of continuously extracting said particulate materials from the oil and removing said extracted particulate materials from the filter system,
 - b) supplying said oil at a predetermined flow rate to said filter system and extracting said particulate materials of at least a predetermined size, and
 - c) transporting said oil from said filter system,
 - d) the method further comprising the steps of detecting if any objects which will not pass through said filter system are within said oil prior to supplying said oil to said filter system and shutting down operation of a pre-treatment stage of said filter system if any such objects are detected.

23. The method of treating oil as set forth in claim 21, further comprising the step of removing from said [oil] particulate material above a predetermined size prior to [supplying] transporting said oil [to] from said filter system.

24. The method of treating oil as set forth in claim 21, further comprising the step of comminuting said particulate material above a predetermined size in said oil in said pre-treatment stage prior to supplying said oil to said filter system.

On line line 3 of claim 26, "class" has been changed to --group--.

28. The method of treating oil as set forth in claim [21] 24, further comprising the steps of:

detecting if any clogging of the [source of oil] treatment stage occurs and shutting down operation of said [filter system] treatment stage occurs if a predetermined amount of clogging is detected.

Claims 29-40 have been canceled.

On page 10 of the specification:

On line 4, "pump" has been changed to --treatment stage--;

On line 6, "pump 66" has been changed to -- treatment stage--;

On lines 6-7, "treatment stage" has been changed to --pump--;

On line 7, "70" has been changed to -66--;

On line 13, "pump motor" has been changed to -treatment stage 70--;

On lines 14, 20, and 21 "torque limiter 72" has been changed to -treatment stage 70--;

On line 22, "pump" has been changed to -treatment stage 70--;

On line 24, "pump motor 74" has been changed to -motor 74--.

On line 13 of page 11, "torque limiter 72" has been changed to -treatment stage 70--.

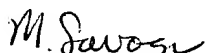
The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: Figure 1 must be amended to include lead lines and reference numbers 20, 18, and 30 mentioned on line 15 of page 5 of the specification. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to teach or suggest the steps of detecting if any objects which will not pass through said filter system are within said oil prior to supplying said oil to the filter system and shutting down operation of a pre-treatment stage of the filter system if any such objects are detected as recited in instant claim 21.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew O Savage whose telephone number is (571) 272-1146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 6:00am-2:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda W. Walker can be reached on (571) 272-1151. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Matthew O Savage
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723

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February 19, 2004